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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable consideration of this application respectfully is requested.

Although the restriction requirement has been traversed applicant understands that claims 103, 104, 106, 114-122 and 126 have been withdrawn. If the restriction requirement is not withdrawn, then upon allowance of this application, applicant will cancel the non-elected claims.

The application includes claims elected claims 105, 107-113, and 123-125 and 127-132.

Claims 105, 107-113 and 123-125 have been rejected.

Claims 127-132 have been objected to.

Withdrawal of the rejections and objections respectfully are requested for the following reasons.

Claim 105 has been rewritten in independent form to include the subject matter of claims 103 and 106; and claim 105 also has been amended to point out the nature of the liquid crystal picture elements, which should overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112.

As for the rejection of claims 107-113 under 35 U.S.C. §112, withdrawal of that rejection is respectfully requested. The Examiner wrote that there is no antecedent basis for "medium" in line 3; attention is directed to the word "medium" that appears in line 2 of claim 107. If the issue is that the Examiner prefers to change the words "the

09/367,423

LAMP102WOUS

medium" to read –said medium– in the three places they appear in the last paragraph of claim 107, the applicant would agree. Thus, claims 107-113 should be allowable.

Claim 110 has been amended to correct the reference to "lc" to read –liquid crystal–. The objection to claim 110 should be withdrawn.

Claims 127 and 130 have been rewritten in independent form. Accordingly claims 127-132 should be allowable.

Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 123-125 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Takizawa (U.S. Patent 5,260,815) in view of Inoue et al (U.S. Patent 6,246,456) respectfully is requested for the following reasons.

Claim 123 particularly points out and distinctly claims a projection system including liquid crystal material that has a birefringence that is limited to about 0.12 or less. The word "birefringence" is not even found in Inoue et al; and there also is no disclosure in Inoue et al of such characteristic of liquid crystal material in a projector to control non-specular scattering.

Claim 124 particularly points out and distinctly claims that the angle of non-specular scattering of the projection system is controlled by limiting the size of the volumes of low birefringence liquid crystal material to a size of about 5 microns or less. Although Inoue et al does mention mean diameter of some of the volumes of 3 microns or less, Inoue et al does not describe that such size is desirable to control the angle of non-specular scattering in a projection system using a liquid crystal device that has low birefringence liquid crystal material in volumes in a containment medium. To combine

09/367,423

LAMPB102WOUS

the disclosures of references it is necessary that the references teach or suggest the combination; there is no teaching or suggestion in either Takizawa or Inoue et al to use volumes of liquid crystal material of 3 microns or even of the claimed 5 microns or less to control the angle of non-specular scattering in a projection system. Furthermore, as was mentioned above, neither reference discloses using low birefringence liquid crystal material.

Claim 125 particularly points out and distinctly claims a method of projecting a relatively high contrast image; one of the steps includes locating between respective portions of a liquid crystal device a mask for transmitting light without substantial scattering. Neither Takizawa nor Inoue et al discloses such a method step. Absent a claimed element in either of the references, the claimed subject matter cannot be obvious in view of a combination of those references.

For the above reasons all of claims 105, 107-113, 123-125, and 127-132 are allowable and this application is in condition for allowance. An early action indicating allowance respectfully is requested.

If there are any questions or if the Examiner feels that favorable prosecution could be expedited by telephone interview, he is encouraged to telephone Applicant's undersigned Attorney at the number below.

Authorization to charge Deposit Account No. 18-0988, Order LAMPB102WOUS is given for any additional claims fee (3 additional independent claims @\$42=\$126 (or such other fee that is appropriate) and for the Extension of Time fee for one month

09/367,423

LAMP102WOUS

(\$55.00). Thus, the total fees authorized are \$126+\$55=\$181—or such other amount as is appropriate.

DATE:

9/2/03

Respectfully submitted,
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Enclosure: Extension of Time

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